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Oswald 'Code' Links Him to Ruby, Garrison Says

NEW ORLEANS, May 12 (AP)—District Attorney Jim Garrison said today Jack Ruby's unpublished telephone number appears in code in addressbooks belonging to Lee Harvey Oswald and Clay L. Shaw.

Garrison told Criminal District Court his investigators broke a telephone number code used by both Oswald and Shaw, a retired New Orleans executive accused of conspiring to murder President Kennedy.

Garrison's statement came in answer to motions by Shaw's attorneys asking the return of Shaw's address book, which was seized March 1 along with five cartons of materials from Shaw's handsome French Quarter home.

The New Orleans district attorney has charged that Oswald, Shaw and the late David W. Ferris conspired here in September, 1963, to kill President Kennedy.

Garrison said Shaw's address book "contains a unique address which exists also in the address book of Lee Harvey Oswald, as printed in the Warren Commission exhibits Volume XVI, Page 58."

No Such Number

He said both notebooks contain the same Dallas postoffice reference, "P.O. Box 19106."

"What makes even more significant this interesting concurrence of address is the fact that in 1963 there existed no such postoffice box number in Dallas," Garrison said.

"The fact is that P.O. 19106 has been found to be a coded description of an unpublished phone number in Dallas, Tex., in 1963," the District Attorney said. "The code involved is one which is used in Oswald's notebook quite systematically, apparently for the purpose of concealing phone numbers he regarded as sensitive. . ."

Garrison, in his answer to the defense motion, said that with many five-digit numbers found in Oswald's notebook, the order of the letters A B C D E is transposed, for the purpose of coding, to A E B D C. Garrison said a reverse process is used in unscrambling.

Explains the System

Referring to the prefix telephone exchange letters, Garrison said:

"Oswald invariably uses the dial of the telephone as conversion machinery to convert letters into numbers and back again. He systematically adds the number values resulting in a sum which can be later broken down into the real exchange listing."

By using the telephone dial for conversion of letters to numbers, Garrison explained, the letters "P. O." becomes the digit 13. The only exchange which the number 13 converts to in Dallas, he said, is WHitehall.

The postoffice box number found in the Shaw and Oswald address books, 19106, when unscrambled, becomes 16901, Garrison said. By subtracting 1300 from 1-16901, he added, the result is 1-5601.

Garrison said Ruby's unpublished telephone number at Dallas in 1963 was WHitehall 1-5601.

The District Attorney said Oswald used two standard numbers in coding numbers in his address book. These numbers were 1300 and 4900, he said.